

## Message Text

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14

ORIGIN PM-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12

TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 AEC-11 IO-12 SS-15

NSC-10 RSR-01 /148 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ ISP: NTERRELL: MEM

5/10/73 X21129

APPROVED BY EUR: GSSPRINGSTEEN

PM/ ISP: LSLOSS

EUR/ RPM: RJMCGUIRE

EUR/ RPM: WROMINE

OSD/ ISA: LSEAGLEBURGER

----- 033396

R 102332 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USDEL SALT TWO

INFO USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 089719

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: LONDON TIMES 7 MAY ARTICLE ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS

REFS: A. LONDON 5248; B. USNATO 2209

VIENNA PASS USREP MBFR

POSTS MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IF QUERIED ABOUT  
THE LONDON TIMES STORY THAT THE PENTAGON IS DEVELOPING  
MINIATURE NUCLEAR ARMS FOR USE IN NATO:

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1. THIS REPORT IS APPARENTLY BASED ON INFORMAL SPECULATION VOICED BY AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES AT A PRIVATE CONFERENCE ON NATO STRATEGY IN FRANCE. THE VIEWS SET OUT IN THE TIMES ARTICLE ARE NOT REFLECTIVE OF OFFICIAL USG VIEWS.
2. THE US DOES, OF COURSE, CONTINUALLY CONDUCT RESEARCH ON NEW WEAPONS AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THERE ARE SOME PROMISING NEW SYSTEMS IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO PRODUCE OR DEPLOY NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS OF THE TYPE DESCRIBED IN THE TIMES ARTICLE. ANY SUCH DECISIONS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT FISCAL AND MATERIAL AVAILABILITIES AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS.
3. THE US REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLE OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE AND THE NEED FOR SUBSTANTIAL AND EFFECTIVE CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE. WE DO NOT SEE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR ADEQUATE CONVENTIONAL FORCES AND THUS CONTINUE TO ENDORSE THE EXISTING NPG GUIDELINES ON THIS POINT. ANY FUTURE PROPOSALS FOR INTRODUCTION OF NEW WEAPONS OR CONCEPTS INTO NATO WILL, AS IN THE PAST, BE THE SUBJECT OF FULL CONSULTATION WITH OUR ALLIES THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS.
4. THE ABOVE IS FOR USE WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. IT MAY ALSO BE DRAWN UPON TO ANSWER PRESS INQUIRIES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE LAST TWO SENTENCES OF PARAGRAPH 3.

ROGERS

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**TAGS:** PFOR, UK, NATO  
**To:** NATO  
SALT TALKS  
USCINCEUR  
USLO SACLANT  
USNMR SHAPE  
VIENNA  
**Type:** TE

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